



NEWS RELEASE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Sentenced to 22 years for Murder of Ex-Wife

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Kelly L. Kimes, 52, of Springfield, MO pleaded guilty and was sentenced today for murdering his ex-wife, Kristi Kimes, at the Taco Bell at 3511 W Chestnut Expressway on the morning of August 8, 2011.

Kimes entered a plea of guilty to the class A felony of murder in the second degree and to the unclassified felony of armed criminal action. Murder in the second degree has a range of punishment of 10 years to 30 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections, or Life. Armed criminal action is punishable by imprisonment in the Missouri Department of Corrections for a term of not less than three years.

Kimes was sentenced pursuant to a plea agreement by The Honorable Thomas Mountjoy to 22 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for murder in the second degree and 3 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for armed criminal action. Both sentences will run concurrently and probation was denied.

Murder in the second degree is classified as a dangerous felony in Missouri. Thus, pursuant to statute, the defendant must serve a minimum prison term of 85% of his sentence or until the defendant attains 70 years of age and has served at least 40% of the sentence, whichever occurs first.

**This case was prosecuted by Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Neal McAmis was the lead investigator assigned to the case.**

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